

In the sworn affidavit accompanying a candidate's application it is expressly stated that "at the time of granting the diploma the requirements of the medical school were in no particular less than those prescribed by the Association of American Medical Colleges for that year; and that the applicant complied with all the requirements of said school." It now appears from evidence obtained by the Board of Examiners that two local medical schools recently granted diplomas to matriculants after two years' attendance. In this year's announcement of one of these schools (a regular college) may be found the name of an illegal practitioner who, after one single course, was graduated with full honor. Hence the absolute necessity, on the part of the Board of Examiners, to exact other credentials than a diploma. For this purpose a committee has been appointed to investigate and report on the credentials of all applicants for license. It may be safely predicted that the strict enforcement of that portion of the Medical Act relating to the standard of medical colleges will cause the rejection of several apparently satisfactory credentials and delay the issuance of license to those who through false statements have succeeded in taking the examinations.

It has often been said that the modern surgeon has no nerves, but has a great deal of nerve; this may be largely true. At any rate, **INTERNIST;** there is a good deal of collateral **A NEW ONE.** evidence to substantiate a claim to nerve, and not the least of this evidence is to be found in the treatment of English. "Surgical English" is a painfully maimed and deformed freak, carved into grotesque abominations by the nervy (or nerveless) surgeon, and further distorted into ungainly shape by the brazen addition of illegitimate Germanic forms. The passion to mutilate is contagious, too, and the physician—the family doctor—has shown the primary lesions. Surgeons were not content with the simple mutilation of such portions of the King's English as came within their technical domain; they were not content to "operate a case" or to note that a "case died," or got well, and such like absurdities; they must needs impart their painful craving to the physician. At first they were content to observe the growing use, by physicians, of their bastardized German expression "saw a case," the "temperature of the case," etc. But now they have handed one to the physician that is a little—just a little—too much for patience to endure. They have branded him an "internist"—whatever that anomaly may be—and he does not seem to object! A surgeon is "one who practices surgery," and a physician is "one who practices medicine."

Then what in the world, the flesh or the devil, is an "internist"? A physician, who had thus been publicly branded, was asked what it meant; he replied that "it is German." That may appear to some to look like a definition; but is it? Please, please, *what* is an internist?

SAN FRANCISCO BOARD OF HEALTH.

The interest of the people of San Francisco has been stirred by the action of the present Mayor, E. E. Schmitz, in his appointments of new members of the Board of Health to take the places of Drs. V. P. Buckley and R. W. Baum, whose terms of office have expired, and Dr. W. B. Lewitt, who has resigned from office. In the places of the two former gentlemen, Mayor Schmitz appointed Dr. W. A. Harvey and Dr. J. A. Hughes, and in the place of Dr. Lewitt he appointed Dr. J. F. Poheim. These new appointees, with Dr. James W. Ward and Dr. John C. Stinson, Mayor Schmitz's appointees of last year, are the medical members of the present Board of Health.

Dr. James W. Ward is a graduate of the Homeopathic Medical College of New York, 1883. He has been in San Francisco since 1886 in the active practice of homeopathy. Dr. John C. Stinson is a graduate of Trinity Medical College, Toronto, Canada, 1893. He has been practicing medicine in San Francisco since that date. Dr. W. A. Harvey graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, St. Louis, in 1895, and was licensed to practice in California in 1901. Dr. J. A. Hughes took his degree from the University of California, Medical Department, in 1883, and received his certificate in the same year. Dr. Joseph A. Poheim graduated at Cooper Medical College about seven years ago; he has spent most of this time abroad, having returned to San Francisco but recently.

These facts are cited because they give some inkling to the general body of the profession, who may not know any of these men personally, of what will be the value of the new appointees as sanitarians and as practitioners of civic hygiene. The interest of the medical man here is identical with that of the non-medical man. He wants to be sure that the men in authority, and who only can do certain acts legally, are wholly qualified in training to manage epidemics, discover and abate possible sources of infection, and conduct in a clean and efficient way the extensive system of the city charities.

It has to be said that not one of these gentlemen has given any outward sign that he is particularly interested in sanitary science or in hospital construction and management, nor that he has any other object in life than the practice of his profession to earn a living. If there has been any word, written or spoken, by any one of these